## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00377 162316Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PA-01 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /087 W

-----015170 162333Z /75

P 161230Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 763
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL DJIBOUTI 377

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, DJ, SA, US

SUBJ: SAUDIS INSIST ON ALI MIRAH SUPPORT

**REF: DJIBOUTI 345** 

1. CHARGE RECEIVED ON 16 MARCH AN INVITATION FROM SAUDI AMBASSADOR, MOUAFFAK AL DULIQUAN, FOR LUNCHEON IN HONOR SULTAN ALI MIRAH HANFARE, TO BE HELD IN LOCAL HOTEL ON 19 MARCH. CHARGE INTENDS TO DECLINE THIS INVITATION DURING PERSONAL CALL ON MOUAFFAK EITHER TODAY OR SATURDAY MORNING. FRENCH AMBASSADOR, WHO IS DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS, INFORMS ME THAT HE WILL TAKE IDENTICAL ACTION, CLAIMING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS INSTRUCTED HIM TO HAVE NO CONTACT WITH GROUPS ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES AGAINST GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA. IN FACT, FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD ME THAT HE HAS NO SUCH PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS, BUT WISHES ANY EXCUSE TO AVOID THE SULTAN.

2. WITH ABSENCE U.S. CHARGE, FRENCH AMBASSADOR, AND OBVIOUSLY THE ETHIOPIAN, THE LUNCHEON WILL BE AN ALL-ARAB AFFAIR. THE CONFIDENTIAL

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LUNCHEON SEEMS LIKE A PARTICULARLY ARTLESS PROJECT ON THE PART OF OUR SAUDI COLLEAGUE, AND IT WILL BE SEEN AS AN INTERFERENCE IN LOCAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS BY CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS OF BOTH ETHNIC SOMALIS AND AFARS. IF IN FACT THE PRESIDENT INSTRUCTED THE SULTAN TO LEAVE, AS NOTED REFTEL, IT WILL CERTAINLY BE SEEN AS AN AFFRONT, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY NOW AND WILL NOT BE BACK UNTIL EITHER SUNDAY AFTERNOON

OR MONDAY MORNING. CLARKE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Subject: SAUDIS INSIST ON ALI MIRAH SUPPORT TAGS: PDIP, DJ, SA, US, (ALI MIRAH HANFARE)

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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